

NICHOLAS CONGER

(b) (6)

EXPERIENCE

2017-Present

OFFICE OF AL GORE

Nashville, TN

Communications Director

- Communications Director, strategic advisor, and spokesperson for VP Gore, managing teams across his non-profit, private-sector, and personal climate advocacy work.
- Built and maintain strong relationships with top print and broadcast reporters/producers/bookers + stakeholders in international, state, and federal governments.
- Travel with the former VP to international climate gatherings and high-profile public appearances executing press conferences, speechwriting, social media, stakeholder engagement.
- Developed/placed op-eds including recently in the *New York Times*, secured TV hits on NBC Nightly News/Today Show, MSNBC, CNN, PBS, and more.
- Skilled in rapid response press and messaging.

2017

NATURAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL (NRDC)

Washington, D.C.

Press Secretary, Federal Communications

- Developed media/messaging strategy and served as spokesperson for advocacy campaigns on clean transportation, renewable energy, and EPA accountability.
- Created blogs and op-eds under my byline and for NRDC experts. Placements included *USA Today*, *Detroit Free Press*, *The Hill*, and newspapers in targeted states.
- Led communications program for E2, NRDC's affiliate non-profit representing business leaders and investors.
- Led social media advocacy in DC. Developed program to support federal lobbying efforts with digital and interactive content.
- Liaison to policy, legal, and communications staff at major environmental NGOs and to network of former EPA officials.

2013-2017

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Washington, D.C.

Strategic Communications Advisor, Office of the Administrator

Deputy Press Secretary

- National press secretary for transportation policy, environmental justice, and enforcement. Deep understanding of environmental subject matter and political issues.
- Led communications strategy and served as spokesman for Volkswagen diesel emissions and Deepwater Horizon cases, among other major initiatives, working in close coordination with DOJ.
- Prepared and staffed Administrator McCarthy and other EPA leadership at public appearances and media interviews.
- Developed op-eds, speeches, and blog posts with the Administrator and other EPA leadership.
- Launched first Twitter account for the enforcement office and served as editor-in-chief of website.

2010-2013

WORLD WILDLIFE FUND

Washington, D.C.

Deputy Director, Media and External Affairs

- Led communications and press strategy for WWF's work with major companies.
- Launched and managed WWF-Coca-Cola "Arctic Home" campaign helping to generate \$1.8M in first year.
- Worked closely with senior leadership at top companies on joint press activities and events, including McDonald's, Walmart and Cargill.
- Launched WWF's first blog and social media program dedicated to corporate sustainability.

- 2003, '08, '12 **DEMOCRATIC PARTY** Washington, DC / Denver, CO / Charlotte, NC / Nashville, TN
Press Officer & Volunteer
- Press officer for Obama campaign faith-based ('08) and environmental ('12) platforms at the Democratic Conventions.
 - Press volunteer with John Kerry for President (June-Sept 2003) managing media relations, grassroots outreach, and research.
 - Canvassing volunteer for Phil Bredeesen's 2018 and Jaime Harrison's 2020 Senate campaigns.
- 2005-2010 **EDELMAN PUBLIC RELATIONS** Washington, D.C.
Senior Account Supervisor
- Developed and executed communication programs for corporate and government clients including Walmart, U.S. Department of Commerce, Motorola, and Air Transport Association.
 - Managed Walmart's engagement with environmental NGOs, and developed programs that resulted in winning the Aspen Institute's Corporate Energy Efficiency Award, inclusion on the EPA's Green Power Partnership, and top rankings with CERES and Carbon Disclosure Project.
 - Press officer for the rollouts of the 9/11 Commission Report and Iraq Study Group Report.
 - Developed public affairs program for the U.S. airlines around cap-and-trade legislation in 2009.
- 2004-2005 **LIPMAN HEARNE** Washington, D.C.
Program Associate
- Communications staffer for non-profit clients, helping to promote and advance mission-driven PR campaigns.
 - Secured media coverage for the MacArthur Foundation's Fellowship Program in the local markets of selected recipients.
 - Managed press outreach for the University of Chicago Graduate School of Business as it moved European campus.

EDUCATION

- 2003 **CLEMSON UNIVERSITY** Clemson, SC
B.A. Communications Studies